REMARKS

This amendment changes claim 20 from dependent form to independent form, with its scope *unchanged*. Claim 20 was indicated as containing allowable subject matter by the Examiner's Answer. Examiner's Answer at 8. This amendment removes issues from appeal by amending claim 20 into independent form to place it in condition for allowance.

Entry of this Amendment is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (NRT.0013US).

Respectfully submitted,

Date: Sep 1, 2004

Dan C. Hu, Reg. No. 40,025 TROP, PRUNER & HU, P.C. 8554 Katy Freeway, Suite 100 Houston, TX 77024-1805 713/468-8880 [Phone] 713/468-8883 [Facsimile]